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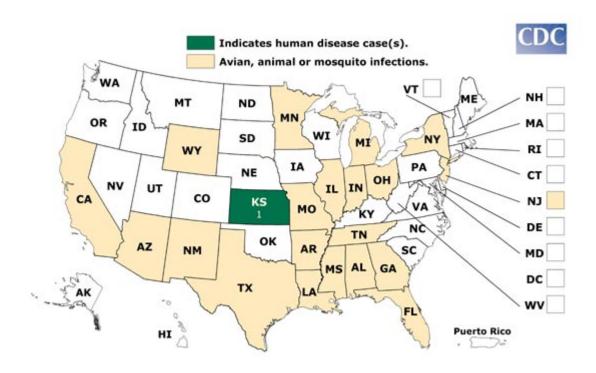
# West Nile Virus Newsletter

For the third year, the Department of Health (DOH) is using this electronic newsletter as a regular communication tool to help keep its partners informed about West Nile virus (WNV). The newsletter will be provided every two weeks throughout the warmer peaks of the mosquito season and less frequently during the colder, non-peak mosquito periods.

#### **National Surveillance**

Provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

2005 West Nile Virus Activity in the United States (Reported to CDC as of June 21, 2005)



A total of 21 states have published their first WNV activity of 2005. At this time in 2004, 26 states had published WNV activity.

As of June 21, 2005, 1 state (Kansas) has reported a total of 1 human case of West Nile virus (WNV) illness to CDC through ArboNET for 2005. Avian or animal WNV infections have been reported to CDC ArboNET from the following states: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Tennessee, Texas, and Wyoming.

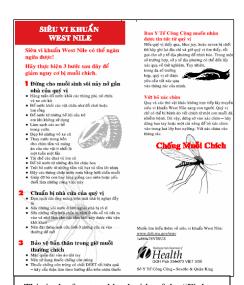
View the June 20, 2005 press release "Nations first human case of West Nile in 2005 reported to CDC" by going to <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/od/oc/media/pressrel/r050620.htm">http://www.cdc.gov/od/oc/media/pressrel/r050620.htm</a>.

Additional information about national WNV activity is available from CDC at <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/index.htm">http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/index.htm</a>. Maps detailing county-level human, mosquito, veterinary, avian and sentinel data are published each week on the collaborative USGS/CDC West Nile virus website: <a href="http://westnilemaps.usgs.gov">http://westnilemaps.usgs.gov</a>.

# Educational materials developed to reach more communities

Thanks to the cooperation of Public Health – Seattle & King County, DOH has West Nile virus "Fight the Bite" flyers available in Chinese, Khmer, Korean, Russian, and Vietnamese. Local health departments and other community entities are encouraged to order these flyers and distribute them to members of their community that could benefit from having the translated "Fight the Bite" message. Places to consider offering the translated material include community based organizations, cultural festivals, health clinics, senior centers, libraries, places of worship (churches, temples, mosques, etc.), fairs, ethnic markets, refugee centers and school districts.

To receive the new DOH "Fight the Bite" translated flyers or other WNV publications such as the "WNV - Do you know what's biting you?" brochure and envelope stuffer available in both English and Spanish, fill out the order form at <a href="http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/ts/Zoo/WNV/education.html">http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/ts/Zoo/WNV/education.html</a>.



This is the front and back side of the "Fight the Bite" WNV flyer translated into Vietnamese. WNV educational materials are available at no charge through DOH.

Residents of King County can view and order translated WNV information from Public Health – Seattle & King County's WNV web page at <a href="http://www.metrokc.gov/health/westnile/index.htm">http://www.metrokc.gov/health/westnile/index.htm</a>.

# Report dead birds to Public Health to help track West Nile virus

Public Health – Seattle & King County, Press Release, June 8, 2005

KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON - With West Nile virus on the horizon this summer, Public Health – Seattle & King County is encouraging King County residents to report dead birds to its Environmental Health Division at 206-205-4394. Crows and jays are particularly important to report, because they tend to die quickly from West Nile virus. Public Health will use the dead bird reports to track the potential arrival of West Nile virus in King County.

"The dead bird tracking system is in place to give us advance warning of West Nile virus in the county before we see a case of human illness," said Dr. Alonzo Plough, Director and Health Officer of Public Health – Seattle & King County. "With their timely bird reports, residents play an essential role in helping us conduct this important surveillance work."

A small subset of crows will be tested for the West Nile virus at the National Wildlife Laboratory in Madison, Wisconsin. The majority of dead birds will not be tested, but will be entered into the mapping database that Public Health will use to identify any unusual increase in bird deaths, which might be attributable to West Nile.

The complete press release is available at <a href="http://www.metrokc.gov/health/news/05060801.htm">http://www.metrokc.gov/health/news/05060801.htm</a>.

# American Mosquito Control Association's 2005 strategy

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program



As the mosquito control community's national/international professional organization, the AMCA's basic long-term approach to reducing pesticide risk is to advocate that all mosquito control organizations implement scientifically based Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices. In this IPM approach, the AMCA encourages using environmentally sound source reduction techniques and "biorational" larvicides. The AMCA advocates that the decision to

implement a source reduction project or apply either larvicides or adulticides is to be based on sound surveillance techniques and the improved targeting of larval and adult mosquitoes by using the best technology available [e.g., Global Positioning Systems].

The AMCA encourages and is supportive of research to help develop and fine-tune techniques which reduce pesticide risk. Also, the continued education and training of the mosquito control industry employees in proper chemical application techniques and safety procedures is an ongoing nationwide initiative. The AMCA program allowing organizations to apply to become a "Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program partner under the AMCA's auspices" will serve as the AMCA's nationwide mechanism for documenting mosquito control pesticide risk reduction progress.

View the AMCA's progress on 2004 activities and the things they are working on this year at http://www.epa.gov/oppbppd1/PESP/strategies/2005/amca05.htm.

# Assessing donor suitability and blood and blood product safety in cases of known or suspected WNV Infection

Guidance for Industry by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration

This guidance document finalizes the draft "Guidance for Industry: Assessing Donor Suitability and Blood and Blood Product Safety in Cases of Known or Suspected West Nile Virus Infection," dated April 2005, and provides revisions to our previously published final guidance entitled "Guidance for Industry: Revised Recommendations for the Assessment of Donor Suitability and Blood and Blood Product Safety in Cases of Known or Suspected West Nile Virus Infection," dated May 2003. We, FDA, recommend that these revised recommendations be applied prospectively, i.e., that actions taken under previous guidance do not need to be

reconsidered subject to the additional provisions of this guidance. The guidance revises the final May 2003 West Nile Virus (WNV) guidance to add a recommendation to defer donors suspected of having WNV infection or diagnosed with WNV infection for 120 days after diagnosis or onset of illness, whichever is later.

This guidance further recommends that donors be deferred on the basis of a reactive investigational screening test for WNV. At their discretion, blood establishments may reenter such donors after 120 days from the date of their reactive donation. Although we are not at this time recommending additional testing of the donor during the recommended 120 day deferral period, individual donation testing using a nucleic acid test (IDT NAT) for WNV on a follow-up sample obtained during the 120 day deferral period will provide useful additional scientific information on the duration of WNV viremia in donors. If such a follow-up sample is reactive for WNV, we recommend that the donor be deferred for an additional 120 days from the date the sample was collected.

View the FDA's guidance for industry document at <a href="http://www.fda.gov/cber/safety/westnile.htm">http://www.fda.gov/cber/safety/westnile.htm</a>.

# The future of West Nile

By Amy Cox, CNN.com, Special Health Report, June 8, 2005

(CNN) -- Leona Thrower felt exhausted, but she blamed it on recent travel. Then came the nausea. Four days later, the 67-year-old lay comatose in intensive care, battling encephalitis caused by West Nile virus.

"I feel ignorant because I hadn't paid attention and I didn't know anything about it," said the Phoenix, Arizona, resident. "I never gave it a thought."

After more than six weeks in the hospital starting in June 2004, Thrower has spent the last year recovering at home. She still suffers from fatigue, muscle and joint problems and a weakened immune system.

"It's affected my whole life. Things that I did before I can't do," she said. "I was a substitute teacher and I couldn't do that this past year."

Thrower is one of the more than 16,000 U.S. cases of West Nile virus since it first appeared in the country in 1999. Six years and more than 600 deaths later as the frenzy dwindles, health officials say West Nile is not disappearing any time soon and they are beginning to uncover some new mysteries about the illness.

"There's still a lot of activity out there in many parts of the country and there's no reason to think it's just going to go away from various places because it really hasn't ever done that," said John Roehrig, who studies West Nile as chief of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's arbovirus diseases branch in Fort Collins, Colorado. "In all the states that have had West Nile, they've maintained some level of activity for West Nile."

The complete CNN special report on West Nile virus can be viewed at <a href="http://www.cnn.com/2005/HEALTH/06/06/wnv.overview/">http://www.cnn.com/2005/HEALTH/06/06/wnv.overview/</a>.

# Washington Non-human Surveillance Summary

Reported to Washington State Department of Health as of June 22, 2005

#### Washington State Department of Health West Nile Virus Surveillance Testing Summary

June 22, 2005

	Horses*		Birds**		Sentinel F	Sentinel Flocks		Mosquito Pools***	
County	Tested	Positive	Tested	Positive	Tested	Positive	Tested	Positive	
Adams	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Asotin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Benton	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	
Chelan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Clallam	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Clark	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Columbia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Cowlitz	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Douglas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Ferry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Franklin	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Garfield	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Grant	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Grays Harbor	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Island	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Jefferson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
King	0	0	22	0	0	0	0	0	
Kitsap	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	
Kittitas	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	
Klickitat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Lewis	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	
Lincoln	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Mason	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Okanogan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Pacific	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Pend Oreille	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Pierce	0	0	7	0	0	0	2	0	
San Juan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Skagit	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	
Skamania	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Snohomish	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	
Spokane	1	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	
Stevens	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Thurston	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	
Wahkiakum	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Walla Walla	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	
Whatcom	0	ō	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Whitman	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Yakima	1	_	9	0	0	0	5	0	
Totals	6	0	79	0	0	0	13	0	

<sup>\*</sup>A total of 12 equine have been tested for West Nile virus. An additional 6 equine tested negative, but were not included in the table because county/state information was not available. WADDL Report Dated: June 7, 2005.

<sup>\*\*</sup>A total of 79 birds have been tested for West Nile virus; USGS Report Date: June 20, 2005 and WADDL Report Date: June 21, 2005.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Mosquito pools tested by USACHPPM-West Report Date: June 17, 2005 (Week #15)

#### **Community Comments**

We would like to hear your comments on this newsletter and things you would like to see by sending them to Maryanne Guichard, 360.236.3391 or maryanne.guichard@doh.wa.gov.

#### **WNV Web Resources**

Washington State Department of Health www.doh.wa.gov/wnv

Center for Disease Control and Prevention www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/

Cornell University, Environmental Risk Analysis Program environmentalrisk.cornell.edu/WNV/

Washington State University Cooperative Extension wnv.wsu.edu/

Washington State Department of Agriculture

agr.wa.gov/FoodAnimal/AnimalHealth/Diseases/WestNileVirus/default.htm

# Article Submission and Subscribing to Newsletter

We are interested in receiving articles for future publications of the WNV Newsletter. Please submit articles and subscription requests to Ben Hamilton, benjamin.hamilton@doh.wa.gov.

#### DOH Contact List for West Nile Virus

#### **General Public Toll-Free Information Line 1.866.78VIRUS**

#### **Publications: Brochures/Flyers/Response Plan/Fact Sheets**

Cyndi Free, 360-236-3384 or cyndi.free@doh.wa.gov

Surveillance: Mosquito

Jo Marie Brauner, 360.236.3064 or jomarie.brauner@doh.wa.gov

# Animal Surveillance: Dead bird and horse surveillance, case reporting, and laboratory assistance, as well as general WNV response

Tom Gibbs, 360.236.3060 or tom.gibbs@doh.wa.gov

## Aquatic Mosquito Control National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit: Training, technical assistance

Ben Hamilton, 360.236.3364 or <a href="mailton@doh.wa.gov">benjamin.hamilton@doh.wa.gov</a>

#### WNV in Humans: Clinical information, case reporting, and laboratory testing

Call your local health jurisdiction or DOH Communicable Disease Epidemiology, (206) 418-5500 or (877) 539-4344.

#### Assistance with news releases and media response

Donn Moyer, 360.236.4076 or <a href="mailto:donn.moyer@doh.wa.gov">donn.moyer@doh.wa.gov</a> Tim Church, 360.236.4077 or <a href="mailto:tim.church@doh.wa.gov">tim.church@doh.wa.gov</a>

#### **WNV Program Management**

Maryanne Guichard, 360.236.3391 or <a href="maryanne.guichard@doh.wa.gov">maryanne.guichard@doh.wa.gov</a>

#### **WNV Coordinator**

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